Trade relations with Trinidad

2350. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to expand economic co-operation and trade relation with Trinidad; and

(b) if so, what are the items in which trade relation is proposed to be established with Trinidad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Some possibilities towards expand economic co-operation and trade relations between India and Trinidad have been explored recently. A delegation from M|s. National Energy Corporation of Trinidad visited India in January, 1985 followed by another visit in June 1985. During their discussions with MMTC agreement for purchase of 1,20,000 tons of Urea from Trinidad was signed for shipment during 1985.

Regarding imports from India by Trinidad, possibilities in regard to such items as distribution type insulations, power transformer, switch gears and iron ore were discussed during the recent visit of a delegation that accompanied the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago.

Purchase of Indian Tea by China

2351. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China proposes to buy tea from India; and

(b) whether any accord has been reached between China and India for this purpose, if so, the total quantity of tea proposed to be purchased by China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) A delegation from China Native Produce and Byproducts Imports & Exports Corporation of the people's Republic of China recently visited India and indicated an interest in purchasing Indian tea. No firm contract has, as yet, been signed.

Training centres for the staff of Union Bank of India

2352. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Bank of India has opened some training centres for its staff;

(b) if so, what is the location of those training centres;

(c) whether Union Bank of India proposes to open some more training centres for the staff during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(d) if so, whether any such training centre is proposed to be set up by Union Bank of India in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Union Bank of India has reported that it has a Staff College located at Bangalore and 7 Training Centres located at the following places —

(1) Alwaye (Kerala), (2) Ahmedabad (Gujarat), (3) Bangalore (Karnataka), Bhubaneshwar (Orissa), (5) Bordi (Maharashtra), (6) Ghazipur (Uttar Pradesh) and (7) Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) One Training Centre has already been set up at Bhubaneshwar in Orissa on 19-7-85.

Special Bearer Bonds

2353. SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount yielded through the sale of Special Bearer Bonds since it was introduced, till date;

(b) whether the sale, resale and transfer of these Speial Bearer Bonds has been permitted; and

(c) if so, what is the number of Special Bearer Bonds sold, transferred since introduction till June, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) 9,64,450 pieces of Special bearer bonds worth Rs. 964.45 crores were sold during the periods 2-2-1981 to 30-4-1981 and 1-12-1981 to 9-1-1982. The bonds are transferable. As these are bearer bonds the transfer of bonds from one holder to another is not required to be registered with the Public Debt Offices.

Trade ties with Saudi Arabia, Iran, Nigeria, and Kuwait

2354. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to improve the trade ties with Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Nigeria and Kuwait; and

(b) what are the details of trade activities between India and the above countries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Among the various measures taken to improve our trade ties with these countries, the more important ones are the following:—

(1) A new export promotion and marketing strategy for Indian goods has been drawn up. Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait and Nigeria have been identified as thrust markets for intensive export promotion efforts. Similarly, thrust commodities/product groups have been identified and special measures are proposed to promote their exports.

(2) Possibilities of link deals involving linkage of exports with imports, within the framework of the existing policy, are being explored.

(3) It is proposed to participate in the Baghdad International Trade Fair proposed to be held in November, 1985. A wholly Indian exhibition is also proposed to be held in Riyad/Jeddah this year. Apart from this the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India (HHEC) proposes to organise a Jewellery exhibition in Kuwait.

(4) Special attention is being paid to promote project exports and joint ventures in these countries.

(b) The trade flows between India and these countries have been as follows:—

(*Value in Rs. Crores*)

Country	1981-82		1982-83		1983-84	
	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.
Saudi Arabia . . .	180	830	227	1496	240	1128
Iraq	85	404	57	884	54	699
Kuwait	133	278	129	282	115	247
Nigeria	65	8	60	..	40	1